

Message Text

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43

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 FEAE-00 DODE-00

ERDA-05 INT-05 PM-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 INRE-00

ACDE-00 /093 W

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O 191330Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5359

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5661

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TECH, IN, US

SUBJECT: ENERGY MINISTER SAYS USG COMMITTED TO SUPPLY TARAPUR
FUEL

1. MINISTER OF ENERGY K.C. PANT TOLD THE LOK SABHA ON APRIL
14 THAT THE GOI POSITION ON THE US SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM
FOR THE TARAPUR ATOMIC POWER STATION HAD BEEN SUITABLY
EXPLAINED TO THE USG. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION FROM CPI MP
INDRAJIT GUPTA, THE MINISTER SAID THAT THE US GOVERNMENT
WAS COMMITTED TO THE FULFILMENT OF ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS
SO FAR AS THE SUPPLY OF THE FUEL ELEMENT WAS CONCERNED, BUT
A GROUP OF CITIZENS IN THE UNITED STATES HAD RAISED CERTAIN
OBJECTIONS BEFORE THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION. AS A
RESULT, PANT CONTINUED, THERE HAD BEEN A DELAY IN THE EXPORT
OF ENRICHED URANIUM, NOT ONLY TO THE TARAPUR PLANT, BUT
ALSO TO SIMILAR STATIONS IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES. PANT
ADDED THAT THE QUESTION OF FURTHER SUPPLIES OF ENRICHED
URANIUM WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE U.S. NUCLEAR
REGULATORY COMMISSION. THE MINISTER IS QUOTED AS SAYING "WE
SHALL WATCH THE DEVELOPMENT THERE".

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2. REPLYING TO A SECOND PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION REGARDING PERIODIC POWER FAILURES AT TARAPUR, PANT SAID DEFECTS HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AND IMPROVEMENTS BROUGHT ABOUT BY INDIAN TECHNICIANS. PANT SAID INDIAN TECHNICIANS ARE WELL ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF DEFECTS WHICH WERE PROMPTLY REMEDIED. HE SAID THERE WAS NO NEED OF ANY SPECIAL INVESTIGATION.

3. FOREGOING BASED UPON SAAMACHAR (INDIAN WIRE SERVICE) REPORT. WE SHALL EXAMINE THE OFFICIAL TEXT AS SOON AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE, BUT HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THE BURDEN OF PANT'S REMARKS IS ACCURATELY REPORTED.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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